Displacement of Minorities

1424. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Muslims have been displaced and deprived of their means of livelihood because of displacement from traditional occupation; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) and (b) In a rapidly developing economy, the distribution of the workforce across communities and across sectors undergoes change.

Some information in respect of the Muslim community is contained in Chapter IV of the report of the High Level Committee on the Social, Economic and Educational Status of the Muslim Community of India available on the Ministry's website www.minorityaffairs.gov.in.

School beyond primary level in muslim localities

1425. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that schools beyond the primary level are very few in Muslim localities; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) and (b) Primary and Secondary education, are mainly the responsibility of State Governments and therefore, most of the schools are also under State Governments.

Action plan for alternative sources of energy

1426. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the action plan of Government to tap alternative sources of energy to meet the future needs;

(b) whether most of the hydel potential remains to be exploited; and

(c) if so, the action plan of Government to exploit this source to its optimum to meet the needs of rural India especially the backward regions *i.e.* Orissa, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Bihar etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) Grid-interactive renewable power generation from wind, small hydro and biomass supplements conventional power. A capacity of about 9373 MW has been set up as on 31.1.2007, corresponding to around 6.5 per cent of the total electricity generation installed capacity, with a share of around 2.5 per cent in the electricity-mix. Against the 10th Plan target for grid-interactive renewable power installed capacity of 3075 MW from renewables, the actual achievement is likely to exceed 6500 MW. Of this, about free-fourths is wind power and the balance one-fourth comes from bio-power and small hydro power. Against an aim that 10 per cent power generation installed capacity in the country should come from renewables during the 10th Plan, the achievement is about 20 per cent, *i.e.*, over double the initial aim, and the trend is likely to continue during the 11th Plan. Capacity addition of 14000 MW is envisaged during the 11th Plan leading to a then share of around 5 per cent in the electricity mix. In addition, programmes of solar thermal, biomass gasifiers, biogas, etc. have facilitated in saving significant amount of fossil fuel energy.

(b) and (c) The potential of small hydro power projects is estimated at 15000 MWe, not all of which might be technically feasible and economically viable. Technical feasible potential of identified sites which are around 4400 in number, is placed at 10,500 MWe. Against this, SHP projects aggregating 1905 MW have been set up with the broad aim that the share of this resource in grid-interactive power should be 2 per cent. Accordingly, a target of adding 1400 MW from SHP projects has been proposed for the 11th Plan which covers Orissa, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, etc. Most of this capacity addition is envisaged mainly through private investment.